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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G01F13/00 G01F G01F22/00 A23G3/22 G01B11/25 G01F15/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 GO1F A23G G01B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included. In the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category Relevant to claim No. X EP 1 132 722 A (DANFOSS AS) 1,2,5,6, 12 September 2001 (2001-09-12) 14 Y abstract 3,4,7,8 US 5 184 733 A (PAU LOUIS F ET AL) 3,4,7,8 9 February 1993 (1993-02-09) the whole document Α GB 712 421 A (UNILEVER LTD) 21 July 1954 (1954-07-21) 7-13,15the whole document WO 90 02318 A (VICTORIA ELECT COMMISSION) Α 8 March 1990 (1990-03-08) 7-13,15the whole document US 5 087 464 A (PUDERBACH GERHARD ET AL) Α 1,5,15 11 February 1992 (1992-02-11) the whole document Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. * Special categories of cited documents : "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 16 September 2003 23/09/2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer

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